MAINE FARMER

AND JOURNAL OF THE USEFUL ARTS.

BY WILLIAM NOYES & CO.] "Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man." [E. HOLMES, Editor.

Vol. IV. Winthrop, (Maine,) Friday, July 29, 1836. No. 26.

The Maine Farmer
IS ISSUED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING.

TERMS.—Price $2 per annum if paid in advance, $2,50 if payment is delayed beyond the year.

No paper will be discontinued at any time, without payment of all arrearages and for the volume which shall then have been commenced, unless at the pleasure of the publishers.

All money sent or letters on business must be directed, *post paid*, to WM. NOYES & Co.

THE FARMER.

WINTHROP, FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 29, 1836.

Chemistry for Farmers. No. 17.

GALVANISM—MAGNETISM—COMBUSTION.

In our last number we stated that the fluids known by the name of Electricity and Galvanism were one and the same, though excited in a different manner. It has been found that Galvanism may also be excited in combination with caloric, or in other words, that by a different combination of the plates of zinc and copper, heat or caloric can be produced in quantities sufficient to burn charcoal—gold or silver leaf—and to heat platina wire red hot.

This modification consists in making the plates of larger size than if you merely wished to give shocks. For instance, if you have 200 plates of zinc and copper 4 inches square, you will obtain enough of the Galvanic fluid to give sensible shocks and to act sensibly on the animal frame by producing that peculiar twitching of the muscles when the fluid passes through the body. But if your plates were a foot or twenty feet square, you would procure very little fluid or that modification of it which will give shocks, but will burn coal, and the thin leaves of metals, and heat a platina wire to redness—the other metallic wires conduct the heat away so rapidly, or are so much better conductors of caloric, that they cannot retain or stop the heat so much as the platina does, and cannot be so readily heated by the battery as the platina wire can.

From this fact it is evident, that Electricity and Galvanism and Caloric are, either one and the same thing, or fluid, under different modifications, or that they are intimately connected and united, and one cannot be disturbed without disturbing the other.

It was not long since discovered that magnetism was also either a modification of this fluid or united with it, and dependent more or less upon its action for the phenomena which it presents. It has been long known that shocks of lightning would sometimes change the poles of the magnetic needle or destroy it. Rods that have been struck with lightening have been rendered so magnetic that they would attract small particles of iron. Heat has also been found to operate either for or against the magnetic power. Thus in drilling a piece of iron with steel, the dust of the iron will be attracted by the drill and will adhere strongly to it. Iron when heated to a certain degree will also attract the particles of iron which are near.

It has been found by experiment that if a magnetic needle be placed under the wires which connect the two ends of even a small Galvanic battery when in action, instead of pointing North and South, it will change and point East and West, or if the wires of the battery should not be in a north and south direction, the needle will turn so as to be at right angles with the wire.

It has been found that if a piece of iron either square or round should be bent in the form of a horse shoe, and that if you should take some copper wire in pieces of 30 or 40 feet—wind them so as to cover them with silk thread, and then put them snugly around the horse shoe, and after suspending it to something which will support it—soldering one end of each wire to the zinc end of a small battery, and the other end to the copper extremities of the same, a powerful magnet may be made. By such an apparatus with a battery of only about 9 or 10 square inches of plates a magnet may be made that will lift four or five hundred weight. Indeed they have been constructed by Prof. Henry, and others sufficiently powerful to support from two to four thousand pounds. It has been conjectured that the magnetic fluid when excited, always passes at right angles to the electric fluid, and that when the electric matter was running round the iron in the wire which passed around it spirally the magnetism passed straight through the centre or axis of it. By soldering part of the wires to the positive end of one battery and the other to the negative end of another the course of the fluid may be sent first through the spiral wires in one direction, and then in the reverse.—By this means the poles of the magnet may be instantaneously changed from north to south and from south to north at pleasure. These facts are interesting, and will undoubtedly at some time or other lead to magnificent and useful results. At present we are much in the dark respecting many things in this department of Natural Science. That electricity and galvanism, whether combined with caloric and magnetism, or not, is an everactive agent in the operations of nature every one cannot but allow, but how far it is concerned in these operations—or what are the particular and specific results from its ceaseless agency we do not know. Certain it is, however, that plants cannot grow, nor animals move wirhout changing the electrical relations of things around them.

Instruments have been devised to show the presence of these fluids, so delicate, that the least movement of the body will indicate a disturbance of electricity. Dr. Locke of Cincinnati, has invented an instrument for the purpose of indicating the presence of electrical fluid, so sensible that it will be disturbed by some of the common motions of the body such as spitting, coughing, &c.

Combustion. We stated in our last that some bodies were supposed to be naturally *negative*, and some to be naturally *positive*, and that these bodies in consequence of the natural attraction between the two kinds of electricity were made to act upon each other.

We also stated that the oxygen of the atmosphere was naturally *negative*, or as it is sometimes called Electro negative. Hence it would be attracted by those bodies which are naturally positive and a union be the result. Hence we see that iron which is naturally positive attracts the oxygen which is negative—combines with it and forms a *rust* or *oxide* of iron. When the union of such bodies is rapid, heat and light are oftentimes given out—*Combustion* is then said to take place, or the material is said to undergo combustion, or in common English—to be "*burned up.*"

We generally see a flame during the burning of most bodies; from whence comes this? Or what is flame? Flame may be considered the combustion or burning of some *gas* or *vapor* Whenever, therefore, any substance which contains a gas or vapor, burns, flame is produced, and when the substance does not contain any gas or vapor combustion may go on but no flame is seen. For instance, spirits of turpentine which vaporises very easily, gives a powerful flame when burning, but iron when burnt produces only brilliant sparks.

In our remarks upon the production of Carburetted hydrogen, we observed that it might be produced from wood,—Now Hydrogen, and Carbon, and Carburetted hydrogen are naturally positive—and when brought in contact with oxygen, and the temperature raised a little to render the attractions between the two, more active, they rapidly unite and flame is produced. We may now venture to give a theory for the explanation why wood, coal and some other substances will burn with or without flame.

Wood is an Electro positive substance, or most of the ingredients of which it is composed (viz.—Hydrogen, Carbon, &c.) are, Oxygen is an Electro negative. By the fixed laws of nature therefore, there must be a strong affinity or attraction between them—a strong tendency to unite. Caloric or heat will increase this tendency. If therefore heat be brought in to aid them, a rapid union will take place, and the oxygen changing from a gaseour or æriform state, and becoming more solid as it combines, gives out more caloric, and thus the tendency to a union is promoted and continued by its own action. It is no matter how the heat is raised in the first place—whether by the rubbing pieces of wood together, or by plunging them directly into the fire; either way, or any way, after it has arrived to a certain temperature will begin the action, and the action once begun is fed and kept up by causes already mentioned.

For the Maine Farmer.

Farming the Best Business.

MR. HOLMES:—As "man wants but little here below, nor wants that little long," will you allow a young man to inquire how he can obtain that little—I mean a competency for himself and family should he have one, with the blessing of Him on whom all are dependant. I have thought of the various trades and occupations pursued by men, and have come to the conclusion, as at present advised, that Agriculture is, on the whole, preferable to any other, as most likely to insure health, without which nothing can be enjoyed—the most like-

ly to lead to a moral life, as the farmer is not in the way of temptation like the merchant who is sometimes tempted to over rate his commodities he is about to vend, because a farmer raises little to sell, and what he does raise all know pretty well the market price of. The several professions, except ministers, are crowded, because men had rather live by them or their wit than work. Mechanics we need, and they are valuable and worthy members of society, and have done much to elevate their own character of late, and much to cause agriculture to be carried on with more ease and despatch. They have generally served the usual term to enable them to be useful in their several callings. But I regret to say by far too many think themselvesborn farmers, or that farming may be usefully and profitably carried on without study, reading or attention—if it is only known how father farmed it.—May not agriculture be reduced to a science, in a great measure, allowing the season to be usually favorable? Cannot a farmer pretty well know how many bushels of corn, rye, wheat, potatoes, ruta baga, &c. can generally be raised on a given quantity of land well manured and tilled? Is not the present product far short of what it should be?—Why not strive to raise 100 bushels of corn to the acre, and 1500 or 2000 bushels of ruta baga? It has been done, and if I become a farmer why may not I do it? Is it not true that farmers are too well satisfied with miserable returns? Do they not withhold more than is meet which tendeth to poverty by neglecting to furnish manure by all the means in their power? by being afraid to purchase gypsum, and even ashes, &c.? Cannot farmers make improvements like mechanics? Should I become a farmer I will never be content to be such as I see many. I will take your paper, and will look at and examine into the course pursued by the best farmers, and if industry, knowledge and suitable economy will make me a first rate farmer I will be one—a poor ignorant farmer, contented with one fourth of a crop, I hope I never shall be—nor will I keep more stock than I can keep without being guilty of the awful sin of starving them. What I may keep I intend shall be of the improved and best breeds. Like many, I hope I shall not begrudge a few cents in obtaining such. Some improvements I have noticed, however, even among farmers. I respect and honor those among us who have shewn that 100 bushels and upwards of corn can be raised in one season on a single acre of land. This has caused others who take agricultural papers, and of course know the fact, to emulate the course they pursued, who did this by managing better and cultivating less land, &c. Thus we see that some are doing better—why not all? That farming business is an honorable one, and the husbandman should be respected as the most valuable citizen no one will at this day deny, because without him all must starve, and when they and mechanics respect themselves as they ought, and give their sons that education in their power, our Halls of Legislation in the several States, and in Congress and other places of trust will at least have their share of them, which has not been the case for want of their reflecting on their own worth on days of election.

Will you, Mr. Editor, please to advise one, who requests the same of all your correspondents.

A YOUNG MAN.

Diseases of Lambs—Inquiry.

The following is from a letter from a friend in Warren county, (Pa.) and we shall be pleased to hear from some of our readers on the subject:

"As a malady attended my lambs this season altogether new to me, I will state the treatment my sheep received, from the 15th of last eleventh month until after lambing this spring, in hopes some more experienced farmer than myself may detect the cause and point out a remedy for the disease.

"At the time above mentioned, I had 95 sheep all in good order except two or three which had been injured and become poor. At that time I divided my flock into three parcels, putting the breeding ewes, the lambs and the weathers by themselves. With the ewes, 49 in number, I put two good healthy bucks, one 2 and the other five years old. Foddered 3 times a day with red clover hay, cut in the blow, well salted, but somewhat heat in the stack. The ewes and lambs, in addition to the hay, I fed once a day with oats in the sheaf, cut green and cured in small stouts or shocks. When my oats failed, about the middle of the second month, I fed them with cap-sheaves of my wheat, which were something grown in the field. They all wintered well with the exception of four, which commenced poor and died before spring. I do not know of more than 36 ewes having lambs—all the others were either lambed dead, or died within one or two days after with a swelled throat—a hard protuberance from the size of a butternut to that of a hen's egg on each side of the glands of the throat, which caused a difficulty of breathing. They all appeared very feeble, and all except two or three that had those bumps died. The lambs which survived, and my whole flock of sheep, have since appeared healthy and thrifty."—*Genesee Far.*

From the New York Farmer.

Hay and Hay Making.

The season of hay cutting is just at hand. An operation so simple as of cutting and curing hay every farmer feels that he understands, and would disdain on this subject any attempt to advise or instruct him. Be it so; the wise are glad to examine any subject, on which it is possible discussion or inquiry may throw some light; correct prejudices, or suggest new and better means of management; the wise in respect to any and every subject are never too wise to learn; and though our own observations or suggestions on any subject may have no just foundation, no reasonableness, and no pertinency, they may be useful if they excite the inquiries and elicit the observations of wiser or more experienced minds.

Hay making must be set down as one of the most important operations in husbandry. Hay with us is the great means of supporting our live stock. Our straw is principally used for litter or the subsistence of our young cattle. Grain and meal are always given with reluctance, excepting to fatting cattle; and comparatively no succulent vegetables are grown for the winter keeping of our stock. It is hoped in this latter case there may be a speedy alteration in the habits of our farmers; and that it will become as much matter of custom among our farmers to raise large crops of vegetables, with which to store their cellars, as large crops of hay with which to fill their barns. Common white turnips, though very little in favor with us are a valuable crop both for sheep and neet cattle. The yellow varieties are still better, as they are more solid and retain their good qualities much longer. The ruta baga is a most excellent vegetable for sheep, cattle and horses. Potatoes, carrots, mangel wurtzel are all excellent. An agricultural friend well qualified to judge informs me that he prefers to all others the common blood beet. He asserts that according to his own experience, it is as sure a crop as any other; that it yields as much to the acre as any other; none will make more milk or put on more flesh; none if properly taken care of will last longer: and none of equal value is raised with more ease or at less expense. My own experience in their cultivation and use disposes me to give almost entire credit to all those statements.

It would seem to be most important to the health of our animals, especially considering the length of our winters and the time during which they are confined to the stall, that they should have green and succulent food to mix with their dry; and that dry especially not of the best quality. Certainly very much of our hay is spoiled in the getting—it is cut not at the right time. It is made either too much or too little; so much as to become too huskey and dry or so little as to be heated and mouldy; in either case much of its nutritive power is lost; and though it may sustain life, cattle by the use of it lose their condition and become diseased; poor, hide-bound, costive, and consumptive.

The time when hay should be cut is a matter not well settled and in which farmers in different places differ with each other. Different grasses ripen at different periods; and with some the season of flowering continues much longer than with others. It it ascertained likewise by chemical analysis that grasses at different periods of their growth yield more nutriment than all others. What in some parts of the country is called the English Bent, a fine and delicate grass must be cut very early or it becomes hard and wiry. Herds grass or Timothy in order according to the experiments of Sinclair, must be allowed to reach an extreme ripeness in order to yield the greatest amount of nutritive matter. We have some incredulity in regard to the statements respecting this latter grass and some hesitation whether these experiments though highly exact and instructive, are to be considered conclusive as to the actual value of these grasses for feeding; and should deem some exact experiments with the cattle themselves made under favorable circumstances and by skilful and careful observers, much more decisive.

The time of cutting for most grasses is when they are in flower. If cut before this they waste greatly and have little substance; and if suffered to stand long after this they lose their succulence. It is advisable in this matter to be early rather than late; and to cut before the plant is exhausted by flowering or by forming seeds. It is then in the highest perfection. The time for cutting clover is longer than of other grasses as it continues longer sending out a succession of flowers; but I am decidedly of an opinion that the sooner this grass is cut after it comes into flower, the better, as it is apt to lodge and to become mouldy at bottom.

On the subject of the time of cutting grass I am happy to quote the opinions of a very able writer. "This rule of cutting grass, when it first comes into flower applies to every speices of herbage, which is to be dried for winter food; but to coarse hay the produce of wet or marshy grounds, it is strongly applicable; for most of the plants, which grow in these situations, when they are in full vigor are as tender, and contain perhaps ar great a proportion of nourishing juices as any other description of hay; and when cut at that stage and properly managed afterwards, form a valuable article of food both for sheep and cattle; but when the cutting is delayed, as indeed it very often is till an advanced period of the season, when the plants have not only reached their ultimate growth, but begins to decay, this description of herbage becomes at once the coarsest and least nourishing of all food. This opinion does not proceed upon theory; but upon the solid grounds of experiments carefully made upon different kinds of herbage, at different periods of their growth, the result of which establishes a fact which cannot be too generally known, viz: that plants of all sorts, if they are cut when in full vigor, and afterwards carefully dried, without any waste of their natural juices either by bleaching with rain or exhalation, contain weight for weight, a quantity of nourishing matter nearly double what they do, when allowed to attain their full growth: and make some progress towards decay." These opinions are stated with great confidence; and are entitled to much consideration; and so far as they apply to our wet meadows deserve particular attention, since the cutting and curing of these grasses receive very little care; they are left standing generally until very late in the season; and the hay from them commonly is almost worthless, excepting for litter.

"In the survey of Perthshire, Eng. it is stated that as the great object of making hay is that of preserving as much of the natural sap as possible, the proper time for cutting it is when the crop of grass has attained its highest degree of perfection; when the plants are in full blow, and before their flowers begin to fade. If cut too green the hay shrivels and loses much of its bulk; if allowed to stand till the seeds are ripe, the steam becomes hard and wiry; the roots loose much of their natural sap; the aftermath is less abundant; and the principle part of the hay is in danger of crumbling away into short stumps, under the various operations which it must undergo. Better to be too soon than too late, especially if the crop be heavy and in danger of lodging."

"With clover the best time for cutting it is when the flowers are all fully blown and earliest begin to turn brown. If allowed to stand longer, the roots of the stalks lose their leaves, and become hard and sticky; and the plant is so much exhausted that it takes a long time before it sends up new shoots."

With respect to curing hay it is important to put it into the barn in as green a state as will possibly do and avoid its heating and becoming mouldy. In this way it best retains its succulence and flavor; and the nearer in both these respects it approaches to grass in its green state, so much better is it relished by all kinds of stock, and so much the more nutritious it undobtedly is. The best farmers, on the Connecticut river, and where they are extensively engaged in the feeding of cattle, have within a few years been accustomed to put their hay in the barn in a very green state and after a slight making. They deem it of the first importance that it should have no foreign dampness adhering to it either of dew or rain; but they do not object to its heating slightly in the mow from the fermentation of its natural juices. They are of an opinion that this even renders it the more palatable for the cattle: but wetness either of dew or rain is altogether injurious to its quality: produces sourness, and mould, and renders it innutritious, unfit for the use of cattle; and extremely pernicious to horses. The English farmers think their hay is better for a slight heat in the stack.

Two things in the curing of hay are to be particularly attended to. The first is to secure it from wet. The effect of wet upon hay is like the effect of water upon tea to extract all its strength and flavor. For this reason the practice of some farmers of mowing in the rain by way of saving time, and suffering the hay to remain wet and entirely saturated with water in the swath, under the impression that it would suffer no injury though it should remain so twenty four hours, proceeds very erroneous opinions; and is to be strongly condemned.—The practice likewise of cutting grass when a heavy dew is upon it, is, on the same grounds to be disapproved, excepting that we might sometimes find that it compelled us to the loss of too much time, never to have a swath mowed but when the grass and ground are perfectly dry. The grass is not mowed so easily when dry as when wet. It requires more strength and the edge of the scythe suffers more; but the grass, which is cut when perfectly dry and the ground under it likewise being perfectly dry and warm is made with so much more quickness and ease, that this consideration, which will go far to balance the supposed or actual advantages in the other case.

The second important point is to avoid getting the hay too dry and stirring it so much as to shake off the leaves. These constitute the most palatable and nutritious part of the hay; and this is particularly likely to happen in respect to clover, which if very much dried and shaken becomes little better than so many sticks. Clover can be well cured in cocks, without any turning, but that of reversing the heaps.—This method has been often tried and with entire success. Salt is always to be applied in these cases at the rate of a peck to a load; and to all English hay the addition of salt to the amount at least of four quarts to the load is always to be recommended

Spreading out, as it is termed, is an operation that should be done by a most careful hand. Clover hardly admits of this when green, and, if attempted when dry, the best parts of the hay are sure to be shaken off. Other kinds of hay however, cannot after mowing, be too carefully opened and too evenly spread; not a matted handful should be left that is not thoroughly separated and shook out. Hay at night, if it can be done, should never be left in swath or in windrow; but put up at first in small cocks and afterwards made with no more shaking about and spreading than is absolutely necessary to dry it. We have already extended this article beyond our intentions and yet have not exhausted it.—We commend it to our brother farmers, not presuming that we can instruct them; but hoping that we may at least draw their attention to a subject of great importance in husbandry; but which we think has by no means as yet received sufficient consideration and care.

The New York Mechanics' Magazine informs us that an important improvement which has been for several years in progress, is about being introduced to the notice of the public. It is a composition or cement, the principal ingredient of which is marble or limestone, which when applied to the inner or outer walls of buildings, presents the appearance of *polished maeble*, of the various hues which distinguish the beautiful material imitated.

One week is said to be sufficient to give the walls of a building the appearance of Grecian, Italian, Egyptian or other marble, and practical men who have examined it, give this cement the decided preference over any other cement, stucco, or other hard finish for walls, heretofore known.—*Mechanic and Farmer.*

From Silliman's Journal.

Serpents.

Dear Sir—From my limited knowledge of the natural history of the various kinds of serpents in our latitude, I had supposed they were all oviparous; but by a late examination of the Water Snake,* I am inclined to a different opinion, and that all this tribe are viviparous. It is well known, that many species of this reptile among us are oviparous, and in case of attack or threatened danger, receive their hatched young through their mouths into their bodies, and disgorge them again at pleasure. This I have witnessed several times, in what is commonly called the streaked or garter snake. But may not this be done, and for the same reason, by other snakes which are viviparous?

I have been led to these reflections by the following facts. A few days since, a large water snake, two feet eleven inches in length, was killed near my house, by one of my neighbors, who informed me "it was full of young ones." Upon opening the body, I found in the stomach two toads of a middling size, together with a variety of bugs and insects. Distinct from the stomach and other viscera, but contiguous to them, separated only by a thin membrane, lay a body of matter, of a cylindrical form, seven inches in length, and about one inch in thickness. This organ was of a milk color, and of a mammillary substance, full of pores, resembling those in a sponge, cellular but tortuous. Upon a slight pressure of this pap, which appeared full of lacteal vessels, a milky fluid issued. On the exterior parts of this organ, I observed the heads and about one inch in length of the bodies of the young snakes. They were so small and tender, that in drawing them out of their cells, several of them were broken, but I succeeded in drawing forth eighty-two, all alive, but of different lengths, from three to six inches, and in thickness about the size of a large knitting pin. In killing the parent snake, a pointed stake, taken from a fence, had been thrust through the body, and had broken apart of the organ containing the young, by means of which my neighbor discovered them. The young reptiles in that part were also broken, so that I could not exactly ascertain their number, but judged it to be between ten and twenty.

The extreme tenuity and tenderness of these young, forbids the supposition that they had ever existed out of the body of the parent snake; neither were they yet capable of receiving any food for their sustenance, other than that of a fluid nature, much less to acquire any themselves of any kind.

I have therefore been led to the conclusion, that the mammillary organ, which I have attempted to describe, must be the vessel in or near which their existence commenced, as well as that which to a certain period of their growth must have supplied them with their food.

The following fact serves to strengthen my confidence in this opinion; several years since, I took out of the eggs, before they were hatched, a number of young snakes, apparently of the garter tribe, and found them of a much larger growth, as well as more active and vigorous than those I found in the water snake.

MOULTING OF SNAKES.

Although not immediately connected with the preceeding, I take the liberty to subjoin a few remarks on the subject of *moulting* or *sloughing* off the old skin of serpents, to which I have lately given some attention.

The season of moulting commences with the smaller species, in the latter part of May or former part of June, but with those of a larger somewhat later, and closes with all about the end of September.

It has been observed by many, that for a period of two or three days before they perform this operation, the reptile is partially, and in some instances totally blind. The eye assumes a lightish sky blue color, similar to that of skimmed milk. This obstruction of vision may be occasioned by the formation of the new crystal, destined to cover and protect the eye, and in its growth is probably opaque and clouded, and probably causes an uneasy sensation in the animal and increases its efforts to rid itself of the incumbrance.

All the cast skins I have seen for many years past were inverted, or, as it is commonly expressed, "turned inside out," and were lying on the ground, fully extended and nearly in a straight line.

In a late conversation on this subject with a gentleman of my acquaintance, on whose veracity and correctness of observation full reliance may be placed, informed me that some years since he had the satisfaction to witness the whole operation of a caged rattlesnake sloughing off his skin. His attention was attracted to the snake by his manifesting an unusual uneasiness, and frequently thrusting his head against and between the wire grates of his prison, as if endeavoring to effect an escape. After striving and chafing against the wires a few minutes, the skin at the point of the head began to cleave off and turn back over the head on to the neck, in an inverted form. After the animal, by pressing the part against the wires, had succeeded in thrusting back the skin three or four inches upon the neck, he left the wires, and throwing his body into a coil around itself, so as to embrace with the last fold the inverted skin, with a strong muscular pressure, made at the same time a powerful effort, shot his body forward through the coils, which unfolded, one after another, and thus drew off the entire skin. This is, in all probability, the *modus operandi* of the whole race, and of whom it may be truly said, "they are all turncoats."

To the enquiring mind, the question might naturally suggest itself—for what reason, and by what necessity, is it, that the serpent, different from other creatures in the animal kingdom, throws off his skin annually? To this it might be replied, the condition to which this animal is doomed, "Upon thy belly shalt thou go," &c. renders it necesary to his comfortable existence, that he be furnished with a covering suitable to that condition. Hence nature has provided for him a complete *coat of mail*, wonderfully contrived in all its parts. Plates, greaves, scales, joints, and ligatures, are all employed in the construction of this protecting armor.

The nicely polished scales, which cover the under side of the body, enable the reptile to glide along upon the ground, among grass, weeds, and other obstructions, with astonishing facility. This coat, however, is necessarily composed of a *material*, the nature of which renders it incapable of distension or expansion. At the return of the warm season of the year, the snake awakens from his torpidity, issues from his winter lodging, and having a full supply of food, which that season affords, soon begins to thrive, and his dimensions increase. He now finds himself too straitly *laced*, and takes measures to rid himself of so uncomfortable a garment.

I have enclosed a specimen of the cast skin of the garter snake, by which you will perceive the inverted convexity of the crystals of the eyes and form of the head; a fragment also of the skin of a small adder. You will notice a difference in the belly scales, as to their proportions.

Shoe and Leather Business.—It is estimated that the exports of boots and shoes from the State of Massachusetts, for the present year, will amount to the enormous sum of 100,000,000. Of this, Lynn will do a tenth part, and Haverhill will rank next. The whole amount of the annual business in leather is computed by the Boston Post to amount to $30,000,000—almost equal to half the value of the cotton crop of the United States.

Valuable Crop.—The Vicksburg Advertiser estimates the value of the present cotton crop of Mississippi at 18 millions of dollars!

---

* Supposed to be the *Coluber Sipedon* of Linnæus.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Dairying.

The first and very important measure is to provide a sufficiently large and convenient dairy house, whether the object be butter or cheese. It should be proportioned to the number of cows, and be sufficient for performing all the necessary operations without embarrassment. "Much attention must be paid to cleanliness in every thing that relates to it, such as the shelves, floors, and different implements which are made use of, by daily scalding, scrubbing, rinsing, and drying, in order to prevent any sort of acidity taking place; for without due regard in these respects, it is impossible that the produce can be of superior quality, or such as will keep sweet and good for any length of time. Cleanliness is the least indispensable part of good management." "A Farmer may have the most valuable breed of cows, and they be fed on the richest pastures, but unless cleanliness prevail in the dairy, his butter or cheese will never stand high in general estimation."

This building should be placed over a cool spring, and trees planted round it for shade. Where there are no springs, the house should be built near the dwelling house, and an ice house close to it.—All the utensils connected with the dairy, must be kept perfectly clean. The milk pans may be of any convenient width, but not to exceed *four inches in depth.*

The milk should be strained *into the pans as soon as possible* after it is taken from the cow, and with as little *agitation as possible*, and where the dairy is large a pail full, as soon as milked, should be strained into the pans. Great loss is sustained by agitation and cooling, and this mode more particularly enables the owner of the dairy to separate the good milk from the bad. Without such attention the whole of his dairy products may be greatly depreciated by the milk of one bad cow." The quantity of butter must depend on the quality of the milk, as well as the management of it; it is therefore important to separate the inferior quality of milk in the first instance, as it secures the best quality of butter: and the inferior may be converted into the use that is found most profitable. There is not only a difference of milk in different cows, but a *difference in the same cow.* For a more perfect view of this subject, the reader is referred to the Maine Farmer for 1st July.

The following is the opinion of Dr. Anderson, a contributor to the Bath Papers on agriculture. "The writer is satisfied from experience and attentive observation, that if in general, about the first drawn half of the milk is separated, at each milking, and the remainder only set for producing cream, and if that milk is allowed to stand to throwing, the whole of its cream, even till it begins sensibly to taste sourish, and if that cream is afterwards carefully managed, the butter thus obtained will be of a quality greatly superior to what can be usually obtained at market, and its quantity not considerably less, than if the whole of the milk had been treated alike. This therefore is the practice that is thought most likely to suit the frugal farmer, as his butter, though of a superior quality, could be afforded at a price that would always insure it a rapid sale."

The degree of heat proper to raise the most cream. The precise heat has not been fixed by experiment, but "from the trials that have been made on this subject, it is believed, that when the heat, is from 50 to 55 degrees in Fahrenheit's Thermometer, the separation of cream from milk proceeds with the greatest regularity, and in the most favorable manner. When the heat exceeds 60° the operation becomes difficult and dangerous; and when it falls below 40° the operation can scarcely be carried forward with any degree of economy or propriety."

On the proper time for skimming milk.—It is the opinion of some of the English writers, "that for *very fine butter* the milk ought not to stand more than 6 or 8 hours; for *ordinary good butter* 12 hours or more."

Skimming.—This requires a dexterity that can be acquired only by practice, but it must be well done, for if any part of the cream is left, the quantity of the butter will be diminished, and if part of the milk is taken, the quality will be the worsé for it.

The mode of keeping cream.—When the cream is separated from the milk, it ought to be put *immediately* into a vessel by itself. No vessel can be better adapted for this purpose than a neat made wooden barrell, in size proportioned to the extent of the dairy, open at one end, with a lid exactly fitted to close it. Close to the bottom, should be placed a cock, for drawing off, from time to time, any thin serous part of the milk, that may have generated, which, if allowed to remain, acts on the cream, and greatly diminishes the richness in the quality of the butter. The inside of the opening should be covered with a bit of close fine wire, to keep the cream back while the serous is allowed to pass; the top of the barrel should be inclined a little forward.

On the time of keeping cream before Churning.—Epping butter is in high repute for its superior quality, and 'the cream is seldom kept above 3 or at the furtherest 4 days, but always till there is a certain degree of *acidity* in the cream either *natural or artificial*, as without it they cannot insure a good churning of butter; some keep a little old cream for this use, otherwise a little rennet:"—

In Suffolk in a large dairy, with a high character for making butter of a superior quality and where the butter was to be sent *directly* to market the cream was churned the second or third day, but when it was to be salted, it was kept a day or two longer, or till it had acquired a certain degree of acidity. The reason assigned was, "that butter from the freshest cream was better and pleasanter to the taste, but that which was kept longer would take the salt better."

From the result of the experience in England, and experience and observation in this country, it is well ascertained, that *acidity* in the cream is absolutely necessary before butter can be produced. It is for this reason that it is difficult to produce good butter in winter. Heating the cream with warm water is a common practice, and it is a long while before the butter is produced, and is usually white, hard, and bitter, with very little taste. The writer has in times past mixed, in winter & spring, used a small quantity of vinegar which has never failed to produce a good effect. But the Epping practice of using rennet is recommended. If acidity in the cream is necessary, and this is acquired by standing, the following course is suggested to prevent the churning of *new* and old cream at the same time.

If the dairy is large and cream is churned three times in the week four vessels to hold cream should be provided and two day's cream put into one, say Monday's and Tuesday's, and churned after the acidity has taken place, and the amount of the acidity must be regulated by experience. An extract from Dr. Anderson will close this head. "The separation of butter from cream, only takes place after the cream has attained a certain degree of acidity. If it is agitated before the acidity has begun to take place, no butter can be obtained, and the agitation must be continued until the sourness is produced, after which the butter begins to form. In summer, while the weather is warm, the beating may be continued until the acidity is produced, so that butter may be got; but in this case the process is long and tedious, and the butter for the most part, of a soft consistence, and tough and gluey to the touch. If this process is attempted during the cold weather in the winter, butter can scarcely be in any way obtained, unless by the application of some great degree of heat, which sometimes assists in producing a very inferior kind of butter." The judicious farmer should not attempt to imitate such practice, but allow his cream to remain in the vessel for keeping it, until it has acquired that proper degree of acidity that fits it for being made into butter with great ease, and by a very moderate degree of agitation; by which process only very fine butter can be prepared.

Churning.—The process of churning is necessary to force out the serous fluid from the cream in order to produce butter. This is done by agitation and in a churn. There are various kinds of churns, but the best churn is the one that will preserve the proper temperature, or the same temperature that is in the churn and cream when put into it. In warm weather cold water for some time is to be put into the churn, and in cold weather scalding water, and also putting hot or cold water in the cream according to the season. As it is important to preserve the same temperature while churning—the best churns are those which are used in an horizontal position—such as a stationary barrel with dashes to move in the inside. A small churn is in use on this principle, and answers a good purpose, as a hole of sufficient size from one half an inch to an inch, may be made on the top, to let out the warm air produced by the agitation of the cream, and to admit the cool air.—A barrel churn of this kind has been used when 36 to 38 lb. butter was made twice a week. An extract from Dr. Anderson is given to show great care is needed in churning.

"In the process of churning greater niceity is required, than most persons are aware of, a few hasty irregular strokes may render the whole of the butter of scarcely any value, and, but for this circumstance would have been of the first quality."

Making up the Butter—It is not necessary to describe the common mode of preparing the butter for market, when taken from the churn. The object is to take from the butter all the serous liquor—which is done by letting it off, and washing the butter by the change of water until it is pure, and not discolored. The advantage of the churn above recommended is going through this process without the use of the hand—and working the butter after it is separated from the serous liquor. Even the salt may be worked in, in the churn. If hutter worked in a barrel churn where was put 1-2 an ounce of sugar, salt petre and salt to a pound of butter into the churn and when well worked it was put in thin layers in firkins with another 1-2 ounce of the above spread on each layer. This butter was sent to the West Indies, and a firkin was kept until the vessel returned with lumber from a Southern port, and was in prime order.

It is agreed by all good butter makers "unless the milk is *entirely taken away*, the butter will infallibly spoil in a short time, and if it be *much worked* the butter will become tough and gluey, and it

should be salted *as soon as the milk is removed.*"

C. V.

For the Maine Farmer.

Scythe Making.

Mr. Holmes:—I have long been convinced that the Temperance reform was exerting a salutary influence on the three great interests of New England; but never till of late have I been fully aware of the extent of the reform in the great manufacturing establishments, or the amount of good which has resulted.

During a late excursion in Massachusetts I have visited a large number of factories and workshops, and, through the politeness of the proprietors or their agents, have been informed of the principles on which they are conducted, and permitted to observe the several operations. I propose, as I may find leisure, to communicate to the public, through your highly useful paper the results of my observations.

The first factory I visited was a scythe factory; I shall therefore make the manufacture of scythes the subject of my first communication.

Most of your readers have probably used scythes stamped with the name of "*Farwell,*" and have found them to deserve the very high reputation they have enjoyed for more than forty years. Mr John Farwell, the original manufacturer of these scythes, is still living and actively engaged in the business, which he commenced so early as 1794. Prior to that time, and indeed long after, most of the scythes used in this country were imported from England and Holland. Farwell's scythes however soon entered into successful competition with the foreign article, and have continued to do so to the present time.

There are two branches of the scythe factory of Messrs. J. Farwell and Co.; the one situated in Chlemsford in the County of Middlesex, and the other in Fitchburg, in the County of Worcester. The two shops give employment eleven months in the year to about 24 men. The iron used is the best Russia Old Sable, and the steel, either Cast Steel or German steel of the first quality. There are twelve operations in making a scythe, each of which are performed by one individual exclusively.

The first operator takes a piece of iron 5 inches long, 2 1-2 inches wide and half an inch thick, this is heated and drawn to the length of 15 inches, or thereabouts; it is then bent over and doubled and a bar of steel, weighing half a pound and of the same length as the doubled bar, is inserted at one side. The whole is then welded and drawn to the length required. The second operation is that of drawing the bar to a point. The third consists in plating it to the required width. The 4th in crooking the point ready for the forming or swedging machine. 5th, in turning the back and swedging the web. 6th, in turning the heel. 7th, in tempering and straightening. 9th, in grinding. 10th, in adjusting the edge and inspecting, which is usually done by the master-workman. 11th, in varnishing. 12th, labeling and preparing for market. Recently these gentlemen have introduced the use of mineral coal in their forges, and one of the firm is the patentee of the "concave sett." By these two improvements combined, the expense of manufacturing the scythes is materially diminished, and the danger of separating the back from the web, in grinding, is avoided. In each of the shops there is a blowing machine, which, by means of pipes, communicates with the numerous forges, and keeps up the requisite degree of heat in all. All the machinery is driven by water power, and in both factories not less than 2,500 dozen scythes are made annually.

In examining the works, I was much pleased with the neatness and order which prevailed, and with the air of cheerfulness and health which was apparent. In answer to my inquiries, on this head, the Messrs. Farwell and their partner, Mr Simonds, informed me that they conducted their factories on the most rigid principles of temperance. They furnish no intoxicating drink to their men—they decline giving employment to any man who is known to use spirits as a drink, either habitually or occasionally. The results of this prudent arrangement is that the work is done in the best manner and in season, and there are no quarrels, nor misunderstandings. Every one knows his duty, and performs it—every one understands his own rights and respects those of his employers and shop-mates.

Here, then, Mr Editor, is another proof that intoxicating drinks are not necessary for laboring men, even when engaged in the most arduous employments, and exposed to opposite extremes of temperature. It is not, however, a solitary proof. A large proportion of the manufacturing establishments in Massachusetts are conducted on the same principle. We sometimes hear of *reaction* in the temperance reform, but I saw no reaction in Massachusetts, on the contrary the cause seemed to be everywhere gaining friends, and I doubt not that, built as it is on the truth, and connected as it is with the best interests of all classes in the community, if reasonable efforts are made by its friends, it will continue to triumph until, at no distant day, alcohol will be confined to its appropriate place—the shop of the apothecary.

A Traveller.

From D. P. King's address before the Essex Agricultural Society.

Successful Farming.

We have been accused of cropping our lands severely without cultivating and manuring them in any reasonable proportion, of mowing our fields many years in succession till their over taxed, exhausted energies can yield us nothing more. The high prices of labor and manure, and the difficulty of obtaining them, have been alledged as excuses of this thriftless and cruel practice, and there is something of truth and more of plausibility in the defence. As a remedy for these evils, and a sure way of improving your land, I can do nothing better than to recommend to you the method practiced for several years with great success by Elias Phinney, Esq., of Lexington. Without offering an apology to Mr Phinney, I shall make an extract from his Address delivered before the Society of Middlesex Husbandmen and Manufacturers, in 1830.—"In May 1828, the field, (the soil of which is thin loam upon a gravelly sub-soil) having lain three years to grass, and the crop of hay so light as to be worth not more than the expense of making, with a view of ascertaining the quantity of vegetable matter upon the surface, I took a single foot square of green sward, and after separating the roots and tops of the grasses from the loam and vegetable mould, it was found on weighing to contain nine ounces of clear vegetable substance, giving, at that rate, over twelve and a quarter tons to the acre. This convinced me of the importance of taking some course, by which this valuable treasure might be turned to good account.—That a great part of this vegetable matter is exposed to useless waste, by the usual mode of ploughing, cross ploughing and harrowing, must be obvious to any one. In order, therefore, to secure this, as well as the light vegetable mould at or near the surface, which is liable to waste from the same causes, I had two acres of the green sward of this field turned over with the plough as smoothly as possible. After removing the outside furrow slices into the centre of the ploughland, and thereby effecting the double purpose of covering the vacant space in the middle, and preventing ridges at the sides and ends, the field was rolled hard with a loaded roller, by which the uneven parts of the furrows were pressed down, and the whole made smooth. It was then harrowed lengthwise the furrow, with a horse harrow, but so light as not to disturb the sod.—Twenty cart loads of compost manure, made by mixing two parts of loam or peat mud with one of stable dung, were then spread upon each acre. It was then harrowed again as before, and then the poorer part of the soil, which had been turned up, and remained upon the surface, was thereby mixed with the compost manure. Corn was then planted in drills * upon the furrows, the rows being at the usual distance and parallell with the furrow. At hoeing time the surface was stirred by running a light plough † between the rows, but not so deep, at this or the subsequent hoeing, as to disturb the sod. What Mr Lorain calls the "savage practice of hilling up the corn," was cautiously avoided. In the early part of the season, my cornfield did not exhibit a very promising appearance; but as soon as the roots had extended into the enriching matter beneath and had begun to expand in the decomposing sward, which had now become mellow, and more minutely divided by the fermentetion of the confined vegetable substances beneath, than it could have been by the plough or hoe, the growth became vigorous, and the crop, in the opinion of those who examined the field, not less than seventy bushels of corn to the acre. As soon as the corn was harvested, the stubble was loosened up by running a light horse plough lengthwise through the rows, the surface then smoothed with a bush harrow, and one bushel of rye, with a sufficient quantity of herd's grass and red top seed to the acre, was then sowed, the ground again harrowed and rolled. The crop of rye was harvested in July following, and the two acres yielded sixty-nine and a half bushels of excellent grain, and over five tons of straw. The grass seed, sowed with the rye took well, and the present season I took, what those who secured the crop judged to be two and a half tons of the very best of hay to the acre.

Thus, with one ploughing, with the aid of 20 cart loads of compost manure to the acre, I have obtained two crops of grain, and stocked the land down to grass." ‡

The great object of the farmer is to obtain the most valuable products, with the least possible labor, and at the same time to keep his farm in a state of progressive improvement; by this method large crops have been obtained with a small expense of labor or manure—but some of little faith may object that it is the result of a single experiment, that there may have been something peculiar in the soils or the seasons, that with others it would have been a complete failure, and most likely the land soon became exhausted. But Mr. Phinney has practiced and continues to practice the same kind of husbandry with the same success, and with increasing confidence. The field on which he made the experiments which he has so clearly and satisfactorily detailed, has remained in grass till the present season, and has continued to yield two tons of good hay to the acre, without any top dressing. Other farmers have followed the same method on a great diversity of soils, and although a plain field and loamy soil may be best adapted to the purpose, there are none except very wet or very rough and rocky grounds which cannot be greatly improved by it. There is nothing unreasonable or unphilosophical in this method, and success would seem to follow it as naturally as effect follows cause. I know that there are many farmers who believe that the *good old way* is the best way, let the most incredulous of these visit the farm of Mr Phinney, which but fifteen years ago produced but nine tons of hay, and which now produces seventy; let him go into those well mellowed fields and see the corn waving in its beauty and ripening into a golden harvest, yielding nearly one hundred bushels to the acre, and potatoes in equal abundance; let him witness all the im-

---

* It might be planted in hills, if that course is preferred.

† Mr P. now uses the cultivator instead of the plough.

‡ William Clark, jun., of Northampton, and Daniel Putnam, of Danvers, have adopted similar methods of husbandry, and have been very successful.

provements of that well managed and thoroughly cultivated farm, (which, in natural advantages, perhaps, does not exceed his own,) and that sceptical farmer, who went out hesitating and unbelieving, will come home with a settled conviction that Mr Phinney is a farmer of great skill and enterprise, enlightened by a sound judgment: he will cheerfully admit that his method of cultivation is a great improvement, and he will apply it to his own farm as far as circumstances will allow. I should not have dwelt so long upon this subject, if, from my own observation and the experience of others, I had not been fully satisfied that the adoption of a similar method of husbandry would be beneficial to our own fields.

Summary.

Convention of Editors and Publishers, held at Stevens' Hotel, Augusta, March 25, 1836.

Rev. Wm. A. Drew, of Augusta, was chosen Chairman, and E. Holmes, of Winthrop, Sec'y.

Voted, That a Committee be chosen to devise some mode for effecting a uniformity of Prices for publishing State and County Advertisements, as well as those of other public bodies.

Messrs. Berry & King, of Portland—Wyman, of Skowhegan, and Drew, of Augusta, were chosen said Committee.

The Committee after consulting upon the subject reported,—"That they recommend that the price for Public Advertisements be fixed at the rate of two dollars and twenty-five cents for 1,000 ems; and thirty-seven and a half cents per 1,000 ems for each insertion of the same advertisement after the third. This the Committee believe, will correspond with the established rates at which advertisements are charged to individuals, and they see no reason why the State, Counties and other public bodies should not pay prices equal to individuals."

Voted, To accept the Report.

The following Resolves were offered and unanimously adopted,

Resolved, That in those cases, where we as Publishers of Newspapers, are manifestly misused by negligent and dishonest subscribers, who evince a determination to defraud us of our honest dues, we will publish the names and residence of such subscribers in our respective papers to the end that the fraternity may be put on their guard against *such* "patrons."

Whereas, serious injury is sometimes done both to Printers and their Apprentices in consequence of receiving young men from other Offices who have left at their own caprice without good cause, therefore,

Resolved, That we will receive no minor from another Printing Office, as an apprentice or a journeyman, without first obtaining the consent of the employer he has left, unless in those cases, which we hope may never occur, where it is manifest, he has been obliged to leave in consequence of being seriously misused.

Voted, The proceedings of this meeting be sent to the Publishers and Editors in the State, for their signatures, previously to their being published.

WILLIAM A. DREW, Chairman.
A true copy.—Attest:
E. HOLMES, Secretary.

We hereby approve of the proceedings of the *Publishers' and Editors' Convention*, above named, and consent to be guided by the rules by them recommended.

WILLIAM A. DREW, *Augusta.*
LUTHER SEVERANCE, "
SMITH & ROBINSON, "
J. C. HAYNES & Co. *Bangor.*
JOHN S. SAYWARD, "
BARTLETT & PRAY "
JOHN S. CARTER, "
ELISHA CLARKE, *Bath.*
WHITE & ROWE, *Belfast.*
JOSEPH GRIFFIN, *Brunswick.*
McLELLAN & NOYES, "
HENRY P. PRATT, *Calais.*
JOHN BENT, "
J. C. WASHBURN, *China.*
DANIEL T. PIKE & Co. *Ellsworth.*
H. K. BAKER, *Hallowell.*
JAMES REMICK, *Kennebunk.*
GEORGE W. MILLET, *Paris.*
SMITH & WATERHOUSE, *Portland.*
I. BERRY & Co. "
HORATIO KING, "
J. & W. E. EDWARDS, "
ASA CUMMINGS, "
MERRILL & BYRAM, "
G. F. COX, "
S. W. COLE, "
D. C. COLESWORTHY, "
CHARLES DAY & Co. "
ASA WYMAN, *Skowhegan.*
GEORGE W. NICHOLS, *Waldoborough.*
EZEKIEL HOLMES, *Winthrop.*
WILLIAM NOYES & Co. "
HENRY M. HEWS, *Wiscasset.*

From the Louisiana Advertiser, July, 6.

Texas.—By a gentleman who arrived yesterday evening in the schr. Col. Fanning, three days from Velasco, we are informed that the Mexican force on the Rio Grande amounts to 10,000 men, and that the Texian army were at present quartered at Labordie, to which place they had retired for the purpose of collecting the remains of the murdered men belonging to Fanning's detachment, and giving them a decent interment.—This they affected, much to the gratification of the surrounding inhabitants and volunteers.

The captive, Gen. Santa Anna, (in irons) has been removed from Columbus to Labordie, where the main body of the army are stationed. The cause of his removal was owing to the late proceeding of the Cabinet, which was to the effect that he should be discharged, but it was counteracted by the people. There was also a rumor very current at Velasco that the Mexicans intended to make a descent by sea upon Velasco to secure Santa Anna at all events, if retained there; but, as our informant states, if such be their intentions they will be frustrated by the above removal.

Melancholy succession of violent deaths in one family.—Joseph Dubois, of Schenectady, in crossing with his team, a branch of the Mohawk, became entangled in the harness, and getting separated floated down and was drowned. About a year ago this individual lost his wife and two children by a fire; a few years ago his only son was found in the Sacondaga woods mangled by wild beasts. Three daughters are left to mourn over these domestic calamities.

A letter from the Postmaster at Columbus, to the Postmaster-General, dated July 2, says—We have information to-day from Fort Mitchell, upon which reliance can be placed, that on yesterday Jim Henry, the notorious half breed and leader, with his band, consisting of 150 warriors, was surrounded by a party of friendly Indians, and compelled to surrender.

The girl, Eliza Baillin, who set fire to the house of Refuge in New York, has been tried and found guilty. A portion of the proof was her own voluntary confession. The Jury recommended her to the mercy of the Court, as she did the deed not from any malice, but from a wish to escape.

Brutal Outrage.—A most inhuman outrage, we are credibly informed, was committed a few days since on the person of a girl eleven years of age, a daughter of a Mr Echord, a Swiss, residing on the plains in this town, by three young men, two of whom are connected with respectable families in the neighborhood. The girl was employed with two old associates, in gathering strawberries in a field, when the villains rushed upon, and attempted to seize them. Two of the girls effected their escape, leaving the other to the mercy of the monsters who, after accomplishing their fiendish purpose fled to the adjoining woods. The girl was taken home in an almost senseless state and died on Monday last from the injuries she received. Ineffectual efforts have thus far been made, to arrest the perpetrators of this brutal deed.—*Black Rock Advocate.*

Printing Establishment of the American Bible Society Burnt.—About 4 o'clock this morning, the large 5 story brick building, 117 Nassau street, belonging to the American Bible Society, and occupied as their printing establishment by Daniel Fanshaw, was discovered to be on fire, and the building and its contents either destroyed or badly injured. Among the property in the building, were 18 or 19 power presses, and a steam engine. We are inclined to think they are not in the aggregate damaged more than 50 per cent on their former value. A large amount of type is destroyed, together with the office furniture, all of which, like the presses, belonged to Mr Fanshaw, whose loss must be $15,000 or $20,00. He is insured only $5000.—The Bible Society owned the building, on which they had $5000 insurance, and an equal amount on their property within it. In both cases the insurance will more than cover their loss. The damage to the building is not probably more than $2,500, as the walls stand firm, and the timbers, although much burnt, have not fallen.

More disclosures.—A N. York paper gives it as a fact that Mr Hoxie, the former employer of Robinson, has advertised a farm in Connecticut for sale, it being 'now the property of Robinson's father, and to be sold to pay a portion of the sums which it is now satisfactorily ascertained he had at various times robbed Mr Hoxie of!'

A Righteous Act.—The last Congress passed an act 'granting half pay to widows and orphans, whose fathers have died of wounds received in the military service of the United States.'

Accident.—On Saturday morning last, as a baggage wagon from Boston, loaded with goods for New Ipswich, N. H. was crossing Nashua River, at Groton, the bridge gave way, and the wagon, horses, and driver, were precipitated into the river. The driver could not swim, but by the aid of a fragment of the bridge, succeeded in saving himself, after passing over the dam.—Five of the seven horses were drowned.—*Lowell Adv.*

Emigration to New York.—The New York Journal of Commerce has the following. A pretty set of citizens are coming among us. Truly, the U. States may be called the poor-house of England.

Marriages.

In Bluehill, Capt. Wm. Walker to Miss Caroline Clough. Mr. Leonard Curtis to Miss Charlotte Knowles.

In Sedgwick, Mr. Jeremiah Friend to Miss Joanna Eaton.

In Eastport, Mr. Myrick Bibber to Miss Ann Eliza Appleby. Mr. Alexander Adams to Miss Jane Mecracken.

Deaths.

In Orrington, Wm. D. Boynton, aged 15 yrs.

In Kennebunk-port, Miss Julia M. Perkins, aged 24.

In Kennebunk, Mrs. Esther, wife of Mr. Daniel Brown, aged 39.

The Rt. Rev. William White, D. D. Bishop of the Episcopal Diocess of Pennsylvania, and senior bishop of that church in the United States, died suddenly at Philadelphia, aged 88 years. He had consecrated all the Episcopal Bishops in the United States, except the Bishop of Michigan.—*Trans.*

Notice

Is hereby given, that a meeting of the persons incorporated into a Company by the name of the *Readfield, Winthrop and Cobbosseeconte Canal and Rail Road Company*, will be held at the Masonic Hall, in Winthrop Village, on Thursday the 18th day of August next, at 2 o'clock P. M. for the purpose of organizing said Company, adopting By-Laws, and taking the necessary measures to carry into effect the object contemplated. All persons desirous of seeing this important work go forward, and willing to cooperate in advancing it, are desired to attend the meeting.

ELIJAH WOOD,
R. H. GARDINER,
SAM'L P. BENSON,
JOHN FAIRBANKS,
E. HOLMES,
NATHAN FOSTER,
DAVID STANLEY,
} Persons named in the Act, and authorized to call the first meeting.

July 28 1836.

☞ Will the Newspapers in this County please insert?

Prices of Country Produce in Boston.
From the New England Farmer.

		FROM	TO
Apples, Russetts and Baldwins	barrel	4 00	6 00
Beans, white,	bushel	2 00	2 25
Beef, mess,	barrel	11 50	11 75
Cargo, No. 1.	"	9 00	9 75
prime,	"	6 75	7 25
Beeswax, (American)	pound	26	28
Butter, store, No. 1.	"	20	22
Cheese, new milk,	"	8	12
Feathers, northern, geese,	"	54	60
southern, geese,	"	54	60
Flax, American,	"	9	15
Fish, Cod,	quintal	3 00	3 20
Flour, Genesee, cash	barrel	7 50	7 62
Baltimore, Howard-st.	"	7 62	7 87
Baltimore, wharf,	"	7 62	
Alexandria,	"	7 75	
Grain, Corn, northern yellow,	bushel	98	99
southern flat do.	"	87	88
white	"	80	82
Rye, northern,	"	98	1 00
Barley,	"		
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	48	50
Hay, best Eng.pr. ton of 2000lbs		24 00	28 00
eastern screwed,	"	20 00	22 00
hard pressed,	"	20 00	24 00
Honey,	gallon	45	50
Hops, 1st quality	pound	13	14
2d quality	"	11	13
Lard, Boston, 1st sort,	"	15	
southern, 1st sort,	"	14	15
Leather, slaughter, sole	"	18	20
do. upper,	"	22	24
dry hide, sole,	"	19	21
do. upper,	"	18	20
Philadelphia, sole,	"	27	29
Baltimore, sole,	"	25	27
Lime, best sort.	cask	1 14	1 17
Plaster Paris, pr ton of 2200 lbs		2 50	2 75
Pork, Mass. inspect. extra clear	barrel	25 50	
Navy, mess,	"		
bone, middling, scarce,	"		
Seeds, Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 75	
Red Top,	"	40	44
Red Clover, northern,	pound	11	12
Silk Cocoons, (American)	bushel		
Tallow, tried,	lb.	9	10
Wool, prime, or Saxony fleeces,	pound	70	75
Am. full blood, washed,	"	60	70
do. 3-4ths do.	"	60	65
do. 1-2 do.	"	50	58
do. 1-4 and common	"	45	55
Native washed	"		
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	60	65
1st Lambs,	"	55	60
2d do.	"	45	48
3d do.	"	30	35
1st Spinning,	"		

Southern pulled wool is generally 5 cts. less per lb.

PROVISION MARKET.
RETAIL PRICES.

Hams, northern,	pound	12	
southern and western,	"	12	13
Pork, whole hogs,	"	10	
Poultry,	"	20	30
Butter, (tub)	"	17	22
lump	"	18	25
Eggs,	dozen	15	18
Potatoes, new,	bushel	1 00	2 00
Cider,	barrel	2 50	2 75

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, July 11.
Reported for the Boston Advertiser.

At market 315 Beef Cattle, 1320 Sheep and Lambs, 40 Beef Cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Sales were made at about last week's prices for a like quality. We quote a few extra taken at 7 50: first quality 6 75 a 7 25; second quality $6 a 6 50: third quality $5 a 5 75.

Sheep and Lambs. — In demand, and sales quick at an advance on former prices. We quote lots at $2, 5 50, 2 75, $3, and 3 12 1-2.—Wethers at 3 50, 3 75 and $4.

THOMAS NEWMAN,
Deputy Sheriff,
WINTHROP—Kennebec Co.

Notice.

EZRA WHITMAN to his friends,
This humble notice greeting sends,
To inform them what he had before,
With stock just added to his store;
And further, that this kind of trade is,
Mostly kept up for the Ladies.
His stock consists of Watches fine,
From fifty dollars down to nine;
With Seals to match of Filligree,
And some are sold as low as three;
He has Timepieces which he says
Will run from eight to fifteen days;
Together with gold seals and rings,
Adorned with topaz precious things.
Ear rings and breast pins finely set,
With jasper topaz Pearl and jet;
Neck-chains mad of gold and hair,
And lots of fine brittania ware;
The last of which both nice and bright is,
Of all patterns and all prices—
Safety chains, and plated ware,
And silver thimbles for the fair;
Spoons of silver cheaply sold—
And spectacles for young and old;
Prees glass, casters, japaned lamps—
Block-tin tea-pots, letter stamps;
Stands for watches, sticks for candles—
Carving knives with buck-horn handles;
Lamps for hanging different ways—
Tumblers, coffee pots and tra s;
Razors, pen-knives, eyes and hooks—
And men's morocco pocket books;
Spoons for mustard, and tea bells—
Combs of horn and tortoise shells;
Scissors, needles, fans, and men's
Calf skin wallets and steel pens;
Buttons, tooth picks, belts and brushes,
With powders made to clean the tushes;
Stilettoes, tweezers, ilet rings,
Egyptian beads and fiddle strings;
Combs of silver pins for hair,
Such ornaments as Ladies wear;
Neck-stock and frames for miniatures,
Tobacco-boxes for old chewers;
Harps, flutes and flagelets,
Kerseymeres and Satinetts;
Snuff boxes, nursing tubes with screws,
And baskets such as ladies use;
Japan and gilt Thermometers,
And patent right Odometers;
Brass andirons of size to please,
A patent right for pressing cheese;
Roasting Jacks with up right spit,
Ladies gloves warranted to fit;
Buckles for belts and plated ladles,
Patent churns and patent cradles;
All of which, with other trash,
Can now be purchased cheap for cash.

EZRA WHITMAN, Jr.
Winthrop, July 26, 1836,

Strayed

From the inclosure of the subscriber on the 17th or 18th inst. two 3 year old light red COLTS with black manes and tails. One of the Colts had one white hind foot and a small star in the forehead—the other had no spots on him. One was a pretty fast trotter, and the other a middling. Whoever will return said Colts or give information where they can be found shall be suitably rewarded.

BENJAMIN PACKARD.
East Winthrop. July 21, 1836.

Commissioners' Notice.

We, the subscribers, having been appointed by the Hon. H. W. Fuller, Judge of Probate for the County of Kennebec, to receive and examine the claims of the several creditors to the estate of Wm. B. SPEAR, late of Wayne in said County, deceased, represented insolvent, hereby give notice that six months from the eleventh day of July instant, are allowed to the said creditors to bring in and prove their claims; and that we shall attend that service, at the office of Alex. Belcher, in Winthrop, on the first Mondays of October, November and December next, from one o'clock P. M. to five o'clock P. M. and on the second Monday of January next, from ten o'clock A. M. to three o'clock P. M. at the house of James Moulton, Inkeeper in said Wayne.

Alex. Belcher,
Seth May.

July 21st, 1836. 3w.

NOTICE is hereby given, that the subscriber has been duly appointed Administrator of all and singular the goods and estate which were of Enoch Wood, late of Winthrop, in the county of Kennebec, deceased, intestate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs:—All persons therefore, having demands against the estate of said deceased are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment to

AMASA WOOD, *Administrator.*
Winthrop, June 26, 1836. 3w24

To the Honorable H. W. FULLER, Judge of the Court of Probate within and for the County of Kennebec.

The petition and representation of Jacob McKenney, Guardian of David Littlefield, of Greene, in the county of Kennebec, a Minor, respectfully shews that said Minor is seized and possessed of certain real estate, situate in said Greene, and described as follows, viz: the homestead that was of David Littlefield, late of said Greene, deceased, that said estate is unproductive of any benefit to said minor and that it will be for the interest of said minor that the same should be sold and the proceeds put out and secured on interest He therefore prays your honor that he may be authorized and empowered agreeably to law to sell at public or private sale the above described real estate, or such part of it as in your opinion may be expedient. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JACOB McKENNEY.

COUNTY OF KENNEBEC, ss.—At a Court of Probate, held in Monmouth on the second Monday of July, 1836.

On the Petition aforesaid, *Ordered*, That notice be given by publishing a copy of said petition, with this order thereon, three weeks successively in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Wintrop, that all persons interested may attend on the second Monday of August next, at the Court of Probate then to be holden in Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted. Such notice to be given before said Court. *H. W. FULLER, Judge.*

Attest: Geo. Robinson, *Register.*

A true copy of the petition and order thereon.

Attest: Geo. Robinson, *Register.*

Know all men by these presents, That I, John House of Wayne, in the County of Kennebec, and State of Maine, in consideration of Ten Dollars, paid by my son ZACHERIAH P. HOUSE, I have this day relinquished to him his time till he shall arrive to the full age of twenty-one years; with power to trade and transact business for himself. so that neither I the said John House nor any person under me, my heirs or assigns, shall in any way claim a right to the earnings of the said Zacheriah, from this date until he arrives to the full age of twenty-one years.

Given under my hand and seal this 12th day of July Eighteen hundred and thirty-six.

JOHN HOUSE.

Witness.
Francis J. Bowles,
Geo. W. Fairbanks.

KENNEBEC & BOSTON U. STATES MAIL STEAM PACKET LINE.

The Steam Packet
NEW ENGLAND,
NATHANIEL KIMBALL, Master,

Will leave Gardiner every Monday and Friday at 3 o'clock P. M., and Bath at 6 o'clock P. M.

Leave Lewis' Wharf, Boston, for Bath and Gardiner, every Wednesday and Saturday at 7 o'clock P. M.

FARE.
From Gardiner to Boston $4,00 } and
" Bath to " 3,50 } found.

☞ The Steam boat TICONIC will run to Waterville, in connection with the New England, when the state of the river will permit.

☞ The New England is 2 1-2 years old—173 feet long—307 tons burthen, and the fastest boat that ever run North of Cape Cod.

AGENTS.
Messrs. T. G. JEWETT, *Gardiner,*
J. BEALS, *Bath,*
M. W. M. GREEN, *Boston.*
Gardiner, June, 1836.

Poetry.

To a Caged Singing Bird.

Before my open window grows a tree,
  Clothed in the bloom and beauty of the spring.
There fondly strays the blossom-loving bee,
  Loading with honey his transparent wing;
And there a solitary bird pours out
  His soul in music. Happy prisoner, sing!
Fill the soft air with thine enchanting shout,
  Upon the bough let thy small mansion swing,
And still be merry! 'Twill not seem a cage
  Thy pinion fettering, if free thy heart;
  But if thou lovest from thy love apart,
I know not how thy sorrow to assuage;
  For if like me thou lov'st, song cannot cheer,
  And the expanse of heaven a prison will appear.

Miscellany.

Considerations for Young Men.

LETTER XXXII.

The creative goodness of God, and his preserving mercy, should have led you to devote yourself to his service; but we present another motive, which should move your heart, and induce you to submit to the claims of the gospel. It is the love of Him, who came to seek and to save you.

You form a link, in the vast chain of accountable beings, which stretches back to our original progenitors. This connection marks you as a sinner, and obliges you to feel all the miseries, and fear all the evils, which flow from transgression. They are evils, not only incident to the present life, but extending to the life which is to come. What a miserable assemblage of beings should we have been, had no adequate Mediator appeared for our relief! There could have been no hope of happiness, either here or hereafter. "But thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." Thanks to the almighty Savior for his condescending love!

You have read the history of those sufferings, which met your Lord at the manger, and attended him to the cross. It would ill become me, by any attempt at description to detract from the touching narrative which inspiration has given. They who saw his agony, and heard his dying groans, have left a picture, which no coloring of mine could heighten. Remember that these sufferings were endured to take away sin, and to raise the soul to heaven. Remember, that, to accomplish our salvation, "He who thought it no robbery to be equal with God, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Without this sacrifice, I could never have offered, nor *you* received, forgiveness. Without the intervention of this compassionate Mediator, no avenue of escape would have opened on our despairing eyes. "He came to seek and to save that which was lost." "He died, the Just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God." Let me, for a moment direct your view to Calvary. Survey that Sufferer, who is nailed to the bloody tree. As you gaze on the scene of agony, tell me, do not those death-groans speak to your heart? Do they not tell you of a doom to which you are disposed? Do they not speak of a love, that bleeds and dies for your rescue? Does not the Sufferer say to you from the cross, Come hither, O sinner, and see in the wounds which I bear, what was due to thy transgressions; come and learn the height and depth of that compassion, to which thou art insensible, and the preciousness of that blood which thou tramplest under foot.

I shall leave you, my reader, to pursue this subject for yourself. With the Bible in your hand, go to some retired spot, and think of the dying love of Christ. Bring home the subject to your soul. You have an interest in it, and it has a claim upon you. It says, "To you, O men, I call, and my voice is to the sons of men." "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow."

Avoid considering the sufferings and death of Christ, as a mere exhibition of sympathy and moral grandeur. Poets have so often touched this plaintive theme, and painters so frequently made it the medium of their fame, that you are in danger of viewing it apart from its personal bearing. A shade of sadness may pass over your mind, when you hear the sufferings of the cross rehearsed in pensive numbers, or when you see on the canvass the vivid touches of the Redeemer's agony; but the solemn feeling should ripen into rev rence, and the sympathetic tear should be accompanied by the gush of penitence. It was your sins which assisted to erect the cross, and to nail upon it the mysterious victim. Yes, it was *your* sins; and until they shall be repented of and abandoned, you have in your heart no sentiment towards the Sufferer, but that of indifference or hatred.

Have you ever seriously meditated on the cross? Or is it a subject which you desire not to bring under consideration? Are you in the habit of viewing it, as appropriate to those only who are numbered among his visible followers? Ah, my young friend, that it is a subject of personal interest, you will discover when a death-bed shall dissipate your idle dreams, and compel you to look back upon life, and forward to an opening eternity. When you lie trembling on the brink of your mortal existence, you will admit the accounts which conscience shall present You will then acknowledge crimes, which you are now ready to conceal or extenuate. You will then wish for that blood which was "shed for the remission of sins." You would then give worlds for such a look as fell upon the dying thief, who sought and obtained the mercy of his Savior. You would then barter your dearest earthly interests, for a safe passport through the gloomy portals of death.

As you cast your eye forward it falls upon that certain and terrific interview, which must take place between you and the Redeemer whom you have slighted. The vision of the future turns you back upon the past. The insupportable view of the past drives you forward to the future. Oh, what would you then give to know, that He who died on Calvary was your friend; to ascertain that his blood was shed for you; to feel beneath you his arms of mercy; and to see above you his smiles of welcome?

The day must come, when the question shall be tried. The hour must arrive, when it will be determined. Let me entreat you, now, to secure his friendship. Let me urge you to bathe your guilty soul in his atoning blood. Listen to his invitations while they greet your ear. Throw yourself into his arms, while they are extended to receive you. If the recurrence of God's goodness, which daily makes your cup to overflow—if his continued patience and persevering mercy have failed to fill your heart with penitence; let not the appeal from Calvary, the dying love of a compassionate Savior, fall unheeded on your ear. Aggravate not the catalogue of sins, already long, dark, and fearful, by rejecting the only hope set before you, and thus crucifying afresh the Son of God. "Whatsoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

Notice.

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the town of Winthrop, holden on the 2d day of May, 1836, *Voted*, That the subscribers be a Committee to invite a loan to the town not exceeding *Three Thousand Dollars*, the interest to be paid yearly and one sixth part of the principal, for the purpose of purchasing a farm for the support of the poor. Any information on the subject to us or either of us will be laid before the town.

ELIJAH WOOD,
NATHAN HOWARD,
STEPHEN SEWALL.

Winthrop, June 4, 1836. tf.

Greenleaf's Patent Cheese Press.

This Press is a very simple, cheap and efficient contrivance. Its principal advantage is, that its power is progressive—being sufficiently light at first, and increasing as the curd, by becoming more compact, presents a greater resistance. In this respect it is believed to be superior to every other Press now inuse. It has been introduced into several of the States, and has everywhere received the approbation of judicious manufacturers of cheese.

Persons wishing to purchase exclusive rights for Counties or towns will please apply to the subscriber, who will give immediate and profitable employment to a number of active trustworthy agents.

MOSES MERRILL,
Joint Proprietor and General Agent.

Andover, Maine, March 10, 1836. 6m7

Eastern Steamboat Mail Line

FOR

Boston, Portland, Bath, Hallowell, Bangor, Eastport and St. John's, N. B.

The PORTLAND, 450 tons, Capt. Jabez Howes,
" INDEPENDENCE, 500 " " Thomas Howes,
" MACDONOUGH, 300 " " Andrew Brown,
" BANGOR, 400 " " Sam'l H. Howes,
" ROYAL TAR, 400 " " Reed.

The splendid Steamers Portland and Independence, will run every night, (Sundays excepted,) between Boston and Portland—leaving Eastern Steamboat Wharf, foot of Hanover street, BOSTON—and Andrew's Wharf PORTLAND, at 7 o'clock P. M.

The Portland

LEAVES BOSTON, on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays,—and PORTLAND on Mondays Wednesdays, and Fridays.

The Independence

LEAVES BOSTON on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays,—and PORTLAND on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. These Steamers are expressly adapted for a sea route, and provided with extra Boats and life preservers.

THE SUPERIOR STEAMER

Macdonough,

HAS been put in perfect order, improved in model and speed, and will run daily between Portland and Hallowell, touching at Bath and Gardiner—will leave Portland after the arrival of the Boston Boats, at 8 o'clock A. M., on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, and Hallowell, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, at 9 o'clock A. M., connecting with the Night Boats for Boston.

THE FAVORITE STEAMER

Bangor,

WILL run as a Day Boat between Portland and Bangor, touching at Owl's Head, Saturday Cove, Bucksport, Frankfort and Hampden—she will leave Portland on Wednesdays and Saturdays, at 6 o'clock, A. M. immediately after the arrival of the Boston Boat, and connecting with the Night Boats for Boston. She is furnished with a Fire Engine, life Preservers, Cork Matrasses, and Four Boats.

☞ One half the Portland and Independence will be reserved for the passengers from the Penobscot, and ample accommodations reserved for those from the Kennebec.

THE NEW AND SUPERIOR STEAMER

Royal Tar,

WILL run weekly between Portland and St. John's N. B., touching at Eastport. She will leave Portland on Fridays, after the arrival of the Portland from Boston, and St John's on Wednesday afternoon in season to place her passengers in the Independence on Thursday evening.

FARE from Boston to Portland $3.
" from Boston to Bath $3 50.
" from Boston to Hallowell $4.
" from Portland to Bangor $4.
" from Portland to Eastport $6.
" from Portland to St. John's $8.
" from Portland to Bath $1 50.
" from Portland to Hallowell $2.
" from Hallowell to Bath $1.

Deck passing at reduced rates.

Freight received every day for all the above ports.

☞ The Proprietors of the Boats, however, will not be responsible for any Bank Bills, Notes, Drafts, Packages, Trunks, or other articles of value, unless the value is disclosed, a proportionate price paid, and a written receipt taken signed by the Captain or Clerk.

All baggage at the sole risk of the owners thereof.

Carriages will be in readiness to take passengers to and from the Macdonough at Hallowell to Augusta and Waterville, on the arrival of the boats, and on the days of her sailing.

Books kept at Steven's, Barker's, Hutchins', Wild's, Johnson & Moor's, Sawtell's *Augusta*, and Hallowell House, Haskell & Burnham's, Paine's and Pratt's *Hallowell*.

Apply to CHARLES MOODY, Fore st. } Portland.
LEONARD BILLINGS, Agent, Andrew's wharf, }
or to A. H. HOWARD, Agent, Hallowell.

May 18.